REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 21, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are rejected. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention, in view of the Examiner's comments, in order to place the claims in condition for allowance. Support for the amendments to the claims is found throughout the specification, and in particular, on page 6, lines 1-2 and 10-15, and on page 18, lines 13-16. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been presented. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 remain pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has stated:

> **Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent number 6,091,397).**
>
> **Regarding claims 1 and 4, Lee discloses a computer-readable medium containing programming instructions and method for controlling brightness from a display unit, the programming instructions comprising:**
>
> **calculating a display brightness in a certain window displayed on a screen of said display unit (using element (23); Figs. 4 and 12, col. 14, lines 32-67); and**
>
> **controlling said display unit (using element (40); Fig. 4) so as to change said brightness of said display unit according to said calculated display brightness. ...**

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections. The present invention provides a method for controlling brightness from a display unit. In accordance with the present invention, the method includes calculating a display brightness within a specific area displayed on a screen of said display unit; and controlling said display unit so as to change a screen

brightness of the whole screen according to said calculated display brightness within said specific area. Lee does not teach or suggest these features, as discussed below.

Lee discloses an automatic screen brightness compensating device. The device includes a cathode ray tube video display device, which includes a microcomputer for receiving data of factors affecting the brightness of a screen with time, computing a decreased amount of the brightness of the screen to compensate for the decreased amount and outputting a screen brightness compensation signal. The compensating device also includes a cathode ray tube controlling means for receiving the screen brightness compensation signal output from the micro computer, controlling a brightness level of a chrominance signal applied externally according to a level of the screen brightness compensation signal, and compensating the brightness of the screen which is decreased with time. (Abstract.)

However, Lee does not teach or suggest "calculating a display brightness **within a specific area** displayed on a screen of said display unit," as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 4. The Examiner has referred to element 23 of Figure 4, Figure 12, and column 14, lines 32-67, of Lee as teaching the calculating step. However, Figures 4 and 12 only generally describe a brightness compensating method, and column 14, lines 32-67, merely describes "calculating contrast and brightness compensation signal values according to the power-on time." Nowhere do these sections of Lee specifically teach or suggest "calculating a display brightness within a specific area displayed on a screen of said display unit," as in the present invention. Lee makes no distinction between different areas of the screen.

Furthermore, Lee does not teach or suggest "controlling said display unit so as to change a screen brightness of the whole screen **according to said calculated display brightness within said specific area**," as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 4. The Examiner has

referred to element 40 of Figure 4 as teaching the controlling step. However, element 40 merely shows a CRT control circuit. Nowhere does Lee teach or suggest that the control circuit changes "a screen brightness of the whole screen according to said calculated display brightness within said specific area," as in the present invention.

Therefore, Lee does not teach or suggest the combination of steps as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 4, and these claims are allowable over Lee.

Dependent claims

Dependent claims 2 and 5 depend from independent claims 1 and 4, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claims 1 and 4 apply with equal force to claims 2 and 5, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 4.

Conclusion

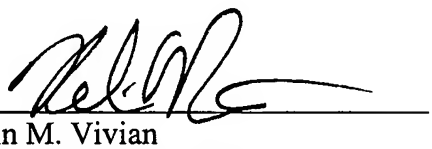
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

January 22, 2006
Date



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